



State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

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Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

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July 13, 2006

Corey Thurston
Western Clay Company
620 East State Hwy 24
Aurora, UT 84620

Subject: Initial Review of Notice of Intention to Amend Large Mining Operations,
Western Clay Company, Bentonite Pits, M/041/012, Task ID# 1423, Sevier
County, Utah

Dear Mr. Thurston:

The Division has completed our review of your draft Notice of Intention (NOI) to Commence Large Mining Operations for the Bentonite Pits mine, located in Sevier County, Utah. After reviewing the information, the Division has determined that the notice meets the qualifications to be considered an amendment, rather than a revision, since the reclamation plan will not differ substantially from the approved plan.

The following comments need to be addressed before the Division can approve this amendment:

- **R647-4-105 - Maps, Drawings & Photographs**

- 105.3 *Drawings or Cross Sections (slopes, roads, pads, etc.)*

None of the maps contained in the submission indicate the scale of these maps, with the exception of the maps showing the proposed expansion. The Division is unable to calculate quantities of material to be removed from these areas without a scale on all maps contained in the submission. Please provide the appropriate map and cross section scales. (DJ)

- **R647-4-110 - Reclamation Plan**

- 110.5 *Revegetation planting program*

The Division recommends to revise the revegetation plan to exclude the use of 200 lbs/ac. of di-ammonium phosphate and recommends composted manure, biosolids or wood chips be included at a rate of 10 ton/ac.

The Division will suspend further review of the Bentonite Pits mine amended Notice of Intention until your response to this letter is received. If you have any questions in this regard please contact me, Lynn Kunzler, or Doug Jensen of the Minerals Staff. If you wish to arrange a meeting, please contact us at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your cooperation in completing this permitting action.

Sincerely,

Susan W. White
Mining Program Coordinator
Minerals Regulatory Program

SMW:LK:pb

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